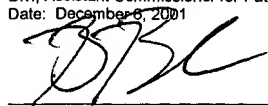


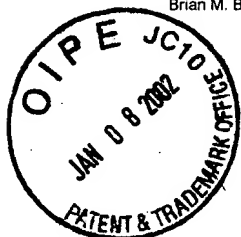
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the: Box Initial Patent Examination Div., Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D. C. 20231.
Date: December 6, 2001



Brian M. Berliner



PATENT
845642-1

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: WILLIAM D. SUVAL

Serial No.: 09/905,735

Filed: July 12, 2001

Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR
VESSEL HARVESTING

Art Unit: 3736

Examiner:

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

BOX INITIAL PATENT EXAMINATION DIV.
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) Applicant hereby petitions for a two-month extension of time to respond to the Notice Of Incomplete Reply (Nonprovisional) mailed November 2, 2001, and the Notice To File Missing Parts Of Application, mailed August 27, 2001 or until December 27, 2001. Enclosed is a check for \$200.00 to pay the two-month extension fee in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a)(2).

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Serial No. 09/905,735
December 6, 2001
Page 2

The Commissioner of Patents is authorized to charge any amount due, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-0639. A duplicate copy of this paper is enclosed.

Date: December 6, 2001

Respectfully submitted,



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